

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) Apparatus for treating age-related macular degeneration, the apparatus consisting essentially of a therapeutic laser light source which, in operation, enables a non-thermal therapeutic light beam to be emitted in a manner similar to light sources used in the context of dynamic phototherapy, wherein said laser light source ~~is designed to emit~~ is an emitter that emits a therapeutic laser light beam presenting an emission wavelength lying only in the range 1.26 μm ; to 1.27 μm and having a power in the range of 1mW ~~10mW~~ to 1W, thereby generating intracellular singlet oxygen directly and in sufficient quantity to occlude abnormal retinal vessels.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the power of the therapeutic light beam is in the range 10 mW to 1 W.

Claim 3 (Cancelled)

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 1 ~~3~~, wherein the laser light source comprises an optical fiber Raman laser.

Claim 5 (Original) Apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the optical fiber Raman laser comprises a pump laser diode, an ytterbium-doped optical fiber laser, and a Raman converter serving to transpose the wavelength of the beam coming from the ytterbium-doped optical fiber laser.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) A method of treating age-related macular degeneration not using an external photosensitizer, the method consisting essentially in selecting a ~~of applying to the~~

~~retina in the eye of a patient a therapeutic~~ laser light source that enables a non-thermal therapeutic laser light beam to be emitted in a manner similar to laser light sources used in the context of dynamic phototherapy, ~~wherein~~ said light source is being designed to emit a therapeutic laser light beam, which passes through the cornea and the crystalline lens of the eye presenting an emission wavelength lying in the range 1.26 μm to 1.27 μm at a power in the range of 1mW to 1W and illuminating the macula of the patient with said laser light beam, so as to generate in the retina intracellular singlet oxygen directly and in sufficient quantity to occlude abnormal retinal vessels ~~with minimal thermal effect on the cornea and crystalline lens of the eye.~~

Claim 7 (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein the power of the therapeutic light beam is in the range of 10mW to 1 W.

Claim 8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 6 8, wherein the laser light source comprises an optical fiber Raman laser.

Claim 10 (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein the optical fiber Raman laser comprises a pump laser diode, an ytterbium-doped optical fiber laser, and a Raman converter serving to transpose the wavelength of the beam coming from the ytterbium-doped optical fiber laser.

11. (New) Apparatus for treating age-related macular degeneration, the apparatus consisting essentially of a therapeutic laser light source which, in operation, enables a non-thermal therapeutic light beam to be emitted in a manner similar to light sources used in the context of dynamic phototherapy, wherein said laser light source is an emitter that emits a therapeutic laser light beam presenting an emission wavelength lying only in the range 1.26 μm to 1.27 μm and having a power in

the range of 10mW to 1W, thereby generating intracellular singlet oxygen directly and in sufficient quantity to occlude abnormal retinal vessels.

12. (New) Apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the laser light source comprises an optical fiber Raman laser.

13. (New) Apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the optical fiber Raman laser comprises a pump laser diode, an ytterbium-doped optical fiber laser, and a Raman converter serving to transpose the wavelength of the beam coming from the ytterbium-doped optical fiber laser.

14. (New) A method of treating age-related macular degeneration not using an external photosensitizer, the method consisting essentially in selecting a laser light source that enables a non-thermal therapeutic laser light beam to be emitted in a manner similar to laser light sources used in the context of dynamic phototherapy, said light source being designed to emit a therapeutic laser light beam, which passes through the cornea and the crystalline lens of the eye presenting an emission wavelength lying in the range 1.26 μm to 1.27 μm at a power in the range of 1mW to 1W and illuminating the macula of the patient with said laser light beam, so as to generate in the retina intracellular singlet oxygen directly and in sufficient quantity to occlude abnormal retinal vessels.

15 (New) A method according to claim 14, wherein the laser light source comprises an optical fiber Raman laser.

16. (New) A method according to claim 15, wherein the optical fiber Raman laser comprises a pump laser diode, an ytterbium-doped optical fiber laser, and a Raman converter serving to transpose the wavelength of the beam coming from the ytterbium-doped optical fiber laser.